

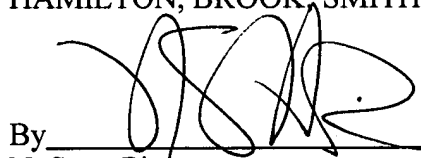
REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claims 2-5, 8, 18, and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The Examiner also stated that Claims 15, 16, and 26 are allowed. Without agreeing with the Examiner and solely to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant has cancelled Claims 2-5, 8, 18, and 20-23, thereby putting the application into condition for allowance. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.



By _____

N. Scott Pierce

Registration No. 34,900

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Dated: _____

3/2/04